20 to 25 per cent of the total expenditure should be raised as fees from the students;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that many institutions are realizing more fees contrary to the said recommendation; and

(c) if so, the names of such institutes and the courses being conducted therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) Committee on Financing of Higher and Technical Education has recommended that revenue generation through student fees beyond 20 percent may seriously affect access to higher education.

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the institutions of higher learning in the country have a variable fee structure which differs from institution to institution.

Child marriage

†682. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court has directed all the Superintendents of Police and District Magistrates to check effectively the increasing number of child marriages; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the details of the action being taken by Government in co-operation with the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Hon'ble supreme Court directed the Collectors and Superintendents of Police of all the Districts in the States on 28.2.2005 to make endeavor to prevent child marriages as far as possible and preferably in cases where mass marriages take place.

(b) The Government have taken several measures to prevent child marriages in the country. These include the following:

* State Governments have been asked for strict implementation of child Marriage (Restraint) Act, 1929

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

* State Governments have been asked to take necessary measures to prevent child marriages in their States

* The proposal for amendment to the Child Marriage (Restraint) Act, 1929, as introduced in the Parliament in 2004, is presently under consideration of a Parliamentary Standing Committee

* NHRC is also taking steps at its level to address the issue

* A strong media campaign is being launched by the Department of Women and Child Development to target prevention of child marriages

* In 2004-05 the National Commission for Women has asked the State Governments to take steps to curb child marriages. The Commission has also recently asked the State Governments of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh where child marriages have been reported around Akshaya Teej to take earnest steps to create awareness against child marriage and to take strong administrative action to prevent child marriages

* The States have also been requested to furnish the details of incidence of child marriages in their States, number of cases, efforts made by the State Government and the NGOs working in the area.

Financial irregularities in IITs

683. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact tha CAG in its latest report pointed out financial irregularities in IITs resulting in loss of several crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that IITs misinterpreted his Ministry's order on revision of pay scales and thereby over-paying crores of rupees to its staff; and

(d) if so, what are the other irregularities pointed out by CAG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his report for the year 2003-04